

# Easter in the UK

Easter in the UK is a little bit different...much more commercialised and fewer traditions

## It all starts with pancake day



Shrove Tuesday

The day before lent starts.

#### **Hot Cross Buns Hit the Shelves**

As pancakes mark the beginning of Lent, Hot Cross Buns mark the end. These sweet pastries with currants or raisins and a sticky glaze on top are sold everywhere at this time of year, and traditionally consumed around the Easter weekend, particularly on Good Friday. They're a little like a very sweet teacake, with a white dough cross on the top, which symbolizes the cross on which Jesus was crucified. They are usually cut in half, toasted, spread with butter, and served (of course) with a cup of tea.





#### Easter Sunday

It takes place on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring.



In the UK, chocolate is definitely the most popular way to enjoy eggs at Easter. But there are some less sugary traditions, too. Chickens' eggs are painted and decorated to give as presents, and eggs are also hidden for children to find as part of an 'egg hunt'. Some places even hold competitions to see who can roll an egg down a hill without it breaking!

There are other special foods too. Hot cross buns are typical cakes that are made at Easter time. They are spiced bread rolls with raisins and they always have a cross shape on top. They are delicious toasted with butter.

#### Chocolate eggs

For most British children, Easter means chocolate Easter eggs. The shops are full of bright Easter displays decorated with chicks, rabbits and flowers, all with the objective of selling chocolate eggs in huge numbers. And it works! 90 million chocolate eggs are sold in the UK each year and each child receives on average eight chocolate eggs.

However, the eggs are sold in cardboard boxes and sometimes there's more packaging than chocolate! Also, some people believe that too much chocolate is eaten and most doctors and dentists would advise people to eat Easter eggs in moderation.

Easter Egg Hunts

## Holy Week in Spain

When is it?

How long do people get off work and school?

Is each day different?

Are there traditional foods?

Do you enjoy it?

What is the atmosphere like?